

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
image input means, for entering an image;  
storage means, for storing said image;  
5 image forming means, for reading said image from  
said storage means and for forming said image; and  
control means, for providing control for said  
image forming means in accordance with a mode set for  
an image copying process,  
10 wherein a function is provided that can set a  
trial copying mode for an image forming process and can  
copy one set when said trial copying mode is effective,  
and that can thereafter temporarily halt said image  
forming process and enable a mode reset, and  
15 wherein for a copying operation performed after  
said trial copying mode is released, a numeral can be  
set to a predetermined value in accordance with a mode  
change effected during a halted state existing  
immediately before the copying.  
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2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in  
a copying operation after said trail copying mode is  
released, when a numeral is changed in the temporarily  
halted state immediately before copying, copying is  
25 performed by the number equivalent to said numeral.
3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in

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a copying operation after said trail copying mode is  
released, when a mode other than a numeral is changed  
in the halted state immediately before copying, copying  
is performed by the number equivalent to the numeral  
5 previously set.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in  
a copying operation after said trail copying mode is  
released, when a numeral is not changed in the halted  
10 state immediately before copying, said is decremented  
by one, and copying is performed by the number  
equivalent to said numeral that is newly obtained.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in  
15 said trial copying mode, trial copying is performed  
always by only one set, and said numeral that is set is  
unchanged.

6. An image forming method comprising the steps  
20 of:  
entering an image;  
storing said image;  
reading said stored image and forming said image;  
providing control for said image forming method in  
25 accordance with a mode set for an image copying  
process; and  
enabling setting of a trial copying mode for an

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storing said image;
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